## Amendments to the claims

1. (currently amended)

A unit which comprises a card read/write device, characterized in that the unit is formed by a mouse pad which is adapted to be coupled to a computer so that the coupling creates a link between the computer and the card read/write device. , wherein said mouse pad comprises a relatively small pad with a substantially planar running surface.

2. (original)

A unit according to claim 1, characterized in that the card read/write device is formed by a SmartCard unit.

3. (currently amended)

A mouse pad unit comprising a mouse pad and a card read/write device integrated with said mouse pad. — wherein said mouse pad comprises a relatively small padwith a substantially planar running surface.

4. (original)

The mouse pad unit according to claim 3, wherein said card read/write device comprises a device for reading/writing smart cards.

5. (original)

The mouse pad unit according to claim 3, wherein said

card read/write device comprises a device for reading/writing cards containing integrated circuits.

6. (original)

The mouse pad unit according to claim 3, wherein said card read/write device comprises a device for reading/writing cards containing stored data.

7. (original)

The mouse pad unit according to claim 6, wherein said data is magnetically stored.

8. (currently amended)

A mouse pad unit comprising a mouse pad and a card read device integrated with said mouse pad., wherein said mouse pad comprises a relatively small pad with a substantially planar running surface.

9. (original)

The mouse pad unit according to claim 8, wherein said card read device comprises a device for reading smart cards.

10. (original)

The mouse pad unit according to claim 9, wherein said card read device comprises a device for reading cards containing integrated circuits.

11. (original)

The mouse pad unit according to claim 8, wherein said card read device comprises a device for reading cards containing stored data.

12. (original)

The mouse pad unit according to claim 11, wherein said data is magnetically stored.

13. (currently amended)

A mouse pad unit comprising a mouse pad and a data storage read/write device integrated with said mouse pad. , wherein said mouse pad comprises a relatively small pad with a substantially planar running surface.

14. (original)

The mouse pad unit according to claim 13, wherein said data storage read/write device comprises a CD-ROM read/write device.

15. (original)

The mouse pad unit according to claim 13, wherein said data storage read/write device comprises a disk drive read/write device.

16. (original)

The mouse pad unit according to claim 13, wherein said data storage read/write device comprises a removable

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hard drive read/write device.

17. (original)

The mouse pad unit according to claim 13, wherein said data storage read/write device comprises a DVD read/write device.

18. (currently amended)

A mouse pad unit comprising a mouse pad and a data storage read device integrated with said mouse pad, wherein said mouse pad comprises a relatively small padwith a substantially planar running surface.

19. (original)

The mouse pad unit according to claim 18, wherein said data storage read device comprises a CD-ROM read device.

20. (original)

The mouse pad unit according to claim 18, wherein said data storage read device comprises a disk drive read device.

21. (original)

The mouse pad unit according to claim 18, wherein said data storage read device comprises a removable hard drive read device.

22. (original)

The mouse pad unit according to claim 18, wherein said data storage read device comprises a DVD read device.

23. (currently amended)

A mouse pad unit comprising a mouse pad and a peripheral device integrated with said mouse pad, wherein said mouse pad comprises a relatively small pad with a substantially planar running surface.

24. (original)

The unit according to claim 3, 8, 13, 18, or 23, additionally comprising means for communicating data between said unit and a computing device.

25. (original)

The unit according to claim 24, additionally comprising text placed on an exterior surface of said mouse pad.

26. (original)

The unit according to claim 24, additionally comprising a graphical image placed on an exterior surface of said mouse pad.

27. (original)

The unit according to claim 24, wherein said means for communicating data comprises a cable.

28. (original)

The unit according to claim 24, wherein said means for communicating data comprises a wireless communication device.

29. (original)

The unit according to claims 1, 3, 8, 13, 18, or 23, additionally comprising text placed on an exterior surface of said mouse pad.

30. (original)

The unit according to claims 1, 3, 8, 13, 18, or 23, additionally comprising a graphical image placed on an exterior surface of said mouse pad.

31. (currently amended)

A method for uploading data to a computer, comprising providing a mouse pad unit with a data storage read device integrated with a mouse pad, and inserting a data storage media into said mouse pad unit, and uploading data from said media onto a computer coupled to said mouse pad unit, wherein said mouse pad comprises a relatively small pad with a substantially planar running surface.

32. (currently amended)

An advertising system, comprising a mouse pad having at least one exterior surface, a data storage device integrated with said mouse pad, and advertising placed on said exterior surface, wherein said mouse pad comprises a relatively small pad with a substantially planar running surface.

## Conclusion

The applicant respectfully requests prompt entry of the above referenced amendments.

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